

[7th April 1960

**SRI V. K. RAMASWAMY MUDALIYAR:** Will the Government come forward to do away with these level-crossings just like in Western countries?

**THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:** Sir, I have heard about the Japanese method, viz., automatic closing of the gates. It is proposed to try it as an experimental measure somewhere in another State. But, it appears to be costly. However, after that experiment had been conducted and if it was then found feasible, that might be adopted in this State also.

**SRI V. SANKARAN:** மதுரையில் பவர் ஹவுஸ் பக்கத்தில் உள்ள ரயில்வே கேட்டுகள் குறைந்தது அரை மணி நேரம் மூடப்படுகிறது என்பது கவர்னர் அவர்களுக்கும் முதல் மந்திரி அவர்களுக்கும் அனுபவம் இருக்கிறது என்று கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் அறிவார்களா?

**THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:** பொதுவாக நேரம் ஆகிவிடுகிறது என்பது உண்மைதான். ஐரோப்பாவில்கூட இம்மாதிரி காரில் போகிறவர்களுக்குத் தாமதம் ஏற்படுகிறது. இப்பொழுது 45 ஓவர் பிரிட்டஜ் போடுவதாக இருக்கிறது. ஒவ்வொன்றையும் எடுத்து செய்வதற்கு ரொம்ப நாளாகும்.

### Tractors

\* 620 Q.—**SRI K. SATTANATHA KARAYALAR:** Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to purchase small type Russian or Japanese Tractors; and

(b) if so, the number that are to be purchased and the manner in which they are to be utilised?

**THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Questions are over.

[Note.—An asterisk (\*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

### II.—CALLING ATTENTION TO THE LOCKOUT IN NAGAMMAL MILLS, NAGERCOIL.

\* **SRI T. T. DANIEL:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to call the attention of the Hon. the Minister for Industries under Rule 41 of the Assembly Rules, to a matter of urgent public importance, viz., Lockout in Nagammal Mills, Nagercoil and the consequent unemployment of more than two hundred workers.

Sir, I understand that the Workers' Union has made certain demands on behalf of the workers of that mill to the management. Their demands included that they should be paid as their wages according to the scheduled rates. The management, after getting those demands, have dismissed from service some of the important workers who were members of the Union and thereupon the Workers' Union issued a strike notice to the management stating that if their demands were not satisfied within a particular date, they would be constrained to go on strike. On the other hand, the management have declared a lockout. We are anxious to know what steps the Government have taken to bring a conciliation between the labourers and the management, what were the reasons that compelled the



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[Sri T. T. Daniel]

labourers to issue a strike notice and whether the Government have gone into the question of verifying the accounts of the management to find out if fraudulent receipts have been received from the labourers appearing to show that the management were paying wages according to the scheduled rates. We also want to know the reasons as to why the management declared a lockout.

**THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN:** Mr. Speaker, the facts stated by the hon. Member vary from the facts which I have in my possession. I shall briefly indicate the facts that I have.

Two workers of Nagammal Mills, Limited, Nagercoil by name Kadaksham and Swami Nadar were refused work by the management when they refused to explain their absence at the workspot on 16th March 1960. Subsequently, 75 workers of the Spinning Department refused to attend to their work during the second half of the second shift on that day, as a protest against the action of the management in refusing work to the above two workers.

On the morning of 17th March 1960, 214 workers of the first shift resorted to a stay-in-strike and remained in their workspot till 11 a.m. without doing work. After a short time, they expressed their willingness to resume work. But the management asked them to give in writing their expression of regret for their action. The workers refused to do so and the management thereon put up a notice stating that the factory would remain closed until the workmen concerned gave an assurance for good conduct in future.

It is reported that the workers went on strike without giving the notice required by section 22 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. This being a public utility service, the strike will thereby become illegal under section 24 (1) of the above Act.

It will be seen from the above that the lockout was declared by the Mills, after the commencement of the strike by the workers protesting against the refusal of employment to two workers and not as a consequence of a strike notice served on the management.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to add that the workers may resume work after subscribing to the Code of Discipline and then take appropriate proceedings under the Industrial Disputes Act for the redressal of the grievances.

### III.—VOTING ON DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR THE YEAR 1960-61—*cont.*

(1) DEMAND I—LAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

(2) DEMAND III—STAMPS ADMINISTRATION.

(3) DEMAND XII—DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND MISCELLANEOUS.

(4) DEMAND XXXV—COMPENSATION TO ZAMINDARS—*cont.*

**MR. SPEAKER :** நேற்று, இந்த மான்யக் கோரிக்கை மீதுள்ள விவாதத்தில் எதிர்கட்சித் தலைவர் அவர்கள் 18 நிமிடங்கள் பேசுவார் என்றும், அதற்குப் பிறகு அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் பதிலளிப்பார் என்றும் தீர்மானித்தோம். ஆனால் இன்று பத்து நிமிடங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. ஆகவே, ஸ்ரீ அன்பழகன் அவர்களை இப்பொழுது பேசுமாறு அழைக்கிறேன். இன்னர் ஸ்ரீ வி. கே. ராமசுவாமி முதலியார் அவர்கள் பேசுவார்கள்.